

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-15 NSC-10 OMB-01 CIAE-00 PM-07

INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

USIA-15 TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 RSR-01 /126 W

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R 021400Z AUG 73

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1042

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO USNMR SHAPE

ALL NATO CAPITALS 3190

USLOSACLANT

USCINCEUR

USDOCOSOUTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3651

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-79

TAGS: MCAP, NATO

SUBJECT: BURDEN SHARING: AUGUST 1 NAC DISCUSSION

REF: STATE 150394

BEGIN SUMMARY: NAC ON AUGUST 1, 1973, TOOD UP SUBJECT OF A MULTI-LATERAL PROGRAM TO COMPENSATE THE U.S. FOR THE COSTS OF STATIONING TROOPS IN EUROPE IN RESPONSE TO AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD'S PRESENTATION TO THE NAC ON 29 MAY AND SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S INITIATIVE DURING THE JUNE 7 DPC MINISTERIAL. IT WAS AGREED THAT A WORKING GROUP UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL HUMPHREYS WOULD DRAW TOGETHER DATA, DETERMINE THE ELEMENTS OF THE PROBLEM, AND PREPARE A POSSIBLE FRAMEWORK FOR SOLUTION FOR SUBMISSION TO NAC IN SEPTEMBER. END SUMMARY.

1. DRAWING EXTENSIVELY ON STATE 150394, AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD EMPHASIZED (SEPTTEL) CONTRIBUTION OF THE U.S. TO THE ALLIANCE DEFENSE EFFORT AND THE FINANCIAL BURDEN THIS ENTAILED FOR THE U.S. WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING THE EFFORT OF OUR
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ALLIES, WE WERE SEEKING AN ARRANGEMENT THAT WOULD COVER SUBSTANTIALLY ALL FUTURE MILITARY BALANCE OF PAYMENTS EXPENDITURES OF WHICH AT LEAST 440 MILLION DOLLARS WOULD BE IN THE FORM OF DIRECT BUDGETARY SUPPORT MEASURES. WHILE WE DID NOT

HAVE A SPECIFIC FORMULA IN MIND WE COULD CITE A NUMBER OF EXAMPLES OF ACTIONS (PARA 7-STATE 150394) THAT MIGHT BE IMPLEMENTED THROUGH A NEW MULTILATERAL MECHANISM. THE U.S. WOULD PREFER THAT OUR ALLIES VIEW THESE EXAMPLES ONLY AS SUGGESTIONS AND DEVELOP THEIR OWN WORKABLE EUROPEAN PROGRAM.

2. THE UK (THOMSON) REITERATED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PROBLEM AS A MAJOR POLITICAL QUESTION AND, IN VIEW OF THE TIME ELEMENT, THE NECESSITY OF PUSHING AHEAD QUICKLY TOWARDS SOME SOLUTION. HE AGREED THAT THE FACTS MUST BE ESTABLISHED IN THE WIDEST POSSIBLE SENSE. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE STUDY SHOULD INCLUDE THE PROBLEMS OF ALL COUNTRIES AFFECTED BY MILITARY BOP DEFICIT.

3. ITALY (CATALANO) ALSO RECOGNIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PROBLEM, AND THE NEED FOR URGENCY. HE DID NOT HOWEVER, BELIEVE THE QUESTION OF CHANGING THE SHARE OF INFRASTRUCTURE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IN THE BURDEN SHARING CONTEXT, AS ANY CHANGE WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT OTHER BURDEN SHARING EFFORTS.

4. FRANCE (DE ROSE) WHO HAS WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS OBSERVED AS HE HAD AT THE NAC MEETING OF JULY 25, THAT THE BURDEN SHARING PROJECT STEMMED FROM JUNE 7 DPC AND THAT THE BURDEN SHARING PARAGRAPH IN THE COPENHAGEN COMMUNIQUE HAD BEEN AMONG THE PARAGRAPHS SUBSCRIBED TO BY THE FOURTEEN ONLY. HE WOULD THEREFORE RESERVE HIS FINAL POSITION UNTIL HE HAD RECEIVED A DECISION AS TO WHETHER FRANCE CONSIDERED THIS A POLITICAL OR MILITARY MATTER. IN THE MEANTIME FRANCE COULD NOT ASSOCIATE WITH ANY GROUP SET UP TO STUDY THE PROBLEM.

5. IT WAS AGREED THAT AN AD HOC GROUP OF NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES CHAIRED BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL HUMPHREYS AND REINFORCED BY ECONOMIC ADVISORS WOULD DRAW TOGETHER DATA, DETERMINE THE ELEMENTS OF THE PROBLEM, AND PREPARE A POSSIBLE FRAMEWORK FOR SOLUTION FOR SUBMISSION TO NAC IN SEPTEMBER.

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